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## NEWS RELEASE

February 18, 2010

Contact: Charlie Roberts (801 297-3910 or 801 556-6318 or 435 882-6910)

### State files felony tax fraud charges against Draper man

The Utah State Tax Commission filed six, second degree felony charges against a Draper man for illegally using a sales tax exemption number.

Clarence Thomas Morse, 60, was charged Feb. 11 in 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court with communications fraud and sales tax violations, all second degree felonies.

"Morse used the business name 'Remington Commercial Leasing LLC' and obtained a sales tax exempt number from State Tax Commission," said Charlie Roberts, Tax Commission spokesman. "He then used this exemption number for illegal and illegitimate purposes."

The Tax Commission alleges Morse purchased several vehicles from a dealership for personal use. He fraudulently used his tax exemption number to avoid paying more than \$23,000 in sales taxes between 2006 and 2008, the State claims.

He also sold a salvaged vehicle with a branded title to a Chevrolet dealership and deceptively misrepresented that the vehicle was not salvaged, the State alleges.

"When people and businesses fail to remit sales and other taxes, it overburdens those taxpayers who pay their fair share of taxes," Roberts said. "This makes it even more difficult for the State to fund critical public services such as education and transportation."

This investigation was conducted by the Motor Vehicle Enforcement Division and the Criminal Investigation Unit of the Utah State Tax Commission. Mr. Morse will be prosecuted by the Davis County Attorney's office.

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